XXVII 27

A TRUE

NARRATIVE

OF A

Base and Bloody Act

Done by a

Bayliff and his Followver

On the Body of one

William Midgly,

AT THE

Sign of the Crown in *Whites-Ally* near *Chancery-Lane*, on *Monday* the 18. of this present *Nov.* 1678.

With the Coroners Jury's Verdict, which was brought in *Wilful Murder.*

LONDON, Printed by *H. R.* 1678.

A True Narrative of a Base and Bloody Act done by a Bayliff and his Follower in Whites Ally near Chancery Lane.

THat all *Officers*, in general, even to the Hangman himself, are (whilst they legally officiate their Duties, and no farther) necessary Instruments in a *Commonwealth*, is certainly no less questionable a Truth, than that *Bayliffs* in particular, do too often by their rude and inhumane Deportments, pervert the innocent intentions of the Law, in committing unwarrantable Hostilitie, on many of his Majesties Loyal, though Necessitated Subjects.

The truth of which deplorable Assertion, will manifestly appear by the Bloody Circumstances of this Inhumane Action, which I am now about to relate.

In *White's* Alley near *Chancery-Lane*, there lives an ancient Woman (whose Name will nothing conduce to the circumstance of this Story, and therefore we shall think fit to conceal it) she has a young Neece whom heretofore she Maintained, with Meat, Drink, *&c.* and it seems disburst some Money for her, which her Kinswoman promised as soon as able to repay it: But so it happened, that the ancient Woman finding her self at last Necessitated, and either being assur'd, or at least strongly suspecting that her Neece had got so much Money by her, as that she might without straitning her self, have return'd part of what she had received of her Aunt in her Necessity; hereupon the old VVoman no longer able to digest (as she thought it) so grose an Ingratitude, especially from so near a Relation, threatned to get that by a fair Course at Law, which she now dispair'd to obtain from her *Neece's* Civility: And thus she acquainted her Kinswo-

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man with, on *Munday* the 18th. of this instant *November*, as they were both at the Sign of the Crown in *Whites Alley*, where several passionate words past between them. The one threatning to call an *Officer*, and the other defying the worst her Aunt could do to her, and withal, aggravated her so far, that at last an *Officer* was sent for indeed; who to provide against any Opposition that might happen in these Cases, brought along with him a resolute surly Fellow his Follower.

But before this *Officer* could take out a Writ, and get into *Whites Alley* to serve it, this young Maids Brother came into the Room to her, who was told what had past between her and his Aunt.

This young Man (or rather Youth) was but about 19 Years of age; a small thin Stripling, and consequently incapable to raise in the *Officers* any reasonable fear of a *Rescue*; they being both of them seemingly very strong Men, and came sufficiently Arm'd, both with Sticks and Swords, to have opposed a far greater Opposition, than could be expected from his weak Arms, especially when Guarded with

nothing but a ſhort piece of a ſmall Curtain-Rod; with which notwithſtanding, the Youth was willing to ſhew at leaſt his Affection to his Threatned Siſter, though he could expect nothing but a Demonſtration of *That*, could proceed from ſo faint a Reſiſtance.

The quality of this Horrid Act will better appear, when I ſhall inform you that when theſe two perſons ruſht up into that Room where this young Man and his Siſter were, they found no other Reſiſtance but that of this Youth; nor any from him neither, till they had done their Office, and in opprobious Language commanded him forthwith to depart the Room; which he forbearing to do, and one of them going to turn out by force, he ſtruck at him with a ſhort piece of Curtain-Rod, and though he did not hit him, yet for that very Attempt, the other with a Sword he brought along with him, Ran him into the Breaſt a little below the left Pap, and ſeeing him fall, both of them with all the haſt they could, left their Priſoner, and made their Eſcape.

The Youth thus fallen, his Siſter and ſome oth[illegible] went about to endeavour his Recovery;

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but all they could do, was to keep him alive till *Thurſday following*, on which he died, and the Coroners Jury ſate on him on *Fryday* in the Evening: they ſearched his wounds throughly, and found it to be ſix Inches deep and one Inch broad; that it went clean through his Liver, and that by reaſon of that wound he died; upon which they brought the Bayliffs Follower in Guilty of wilful Murder.

FINIS.

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